REMARKS

I. <u>Introduction</u>

Claims 1 to 34 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for immediate allowance, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Allowed Claims

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 5, 7, and 8 are allowed.

III. Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

Regarding the provisional double patenting rejection of claims 1 to 4, 6, 9, 10, and 25 to 34, although the merits of this provisional rejection are not necessarily agreed with, to facilitate matters, submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/360,889. The Terminal Disclaimer has been executed by the undersigned, an attorney of record, on behalf of VOLKSWAGEN AG and AUDI AG, assignees of 100 percent interest in the present application by virtue of the following chain of title:

- 1. Assignment from the inventors, Brian Michael FINN and Shawn K. STEENHAGEN, to VOLKSWAGEN AG, which was recorded in the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 15, 2003, at Reel 014792, Frame 0084; and
- 2. Partial Assignment from VOLKSWAGEN AG to AUDI AG, which was recorded in the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 29, 2010, at Reel 023874, Frame 0614.

Copies of the foregoing assignment documents were annexed to the Response filed on January 29, 2010.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this provisional rejection is respectfully requested.

NY01 1970476 2

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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NY01 1970476 3